

Remarks

Claims 1-15, 31, and 32 were previously pending in the application. In the present response, the claims are unchanged. Accordingly, after entry of the response Claims 1-15, 31, and 32 will remain pending. Reconsideration is respectfully requested based on the following remarks.

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1, 2, 31, and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurauchi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,323,921), herein referred to as “Kurauchi”, in view of Sawasaki et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,836,308), herein referred to as “Sawasaki”.

Claims 3, 5, 7, and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurauchi in view of Sawasaki as applied to Claim 1 above, and further in view of Miyazaki et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,757,451), herein referred to as “Miyazaki”.

Claims 4, 6, 8, and 10-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurauchi in view of Sawasaki and Miyazaki., as applied to Claims 3, 5, 7, and 9, and further in view of Yamada (U.S. Patent No. 6,140,988).

Of the above-referenced claims, Claim 1 is independent. Accordingly, once allowability of that claim is established, all claims depending therefrom are likewise allowable.

Claim 1 in part recites, “a light blocking pattern formed on the second transparent substrate; a common electrode disposed on the second transparent substrate having the light blocking pattern formed thereon, a protruding portion of the common electrode protruded by the light blocking pattern making contact with an end portion of the space”.

In this regard, as shown in Figures 7, 8, 11-15, and 17 Applicants disclose, “A common electrode 220 comprising ITO or IZO is formed over the second transparent substrate 210 on which the light blocking pattern 230 is formed. The common electrode 220 directly makes contact with a color filter spacer 140 formed on the first substrate 100” [¶0089 and 0098].

Applicants respectfully submit that Kurauchi in view of Sawasaki or any other reference cited by the Examiner does not disclose, teach, or otherwise make obvious, “a light blocking pattern formed on the second transparent substrate; a common electrode disposed on the second transparent substrate having the light blocking pattern formed thereon, a protruding portion of the common electrode protruded by the light blocking pattern making contact with an end portion of the space” as recited in Applicants’ Claim 1.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit independent Claim 1 and all claims depending therefrom are patentable.

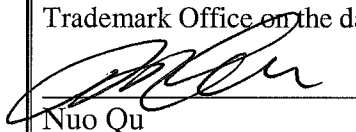
Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

Conclusion

In view of the remarks set forth above, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Authorization is given to charge any fees due or credit any overpayments in regard to this communication to deposit account 50-2257. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns, a telephone call to the undersigned at (949) 752-7040 is welcomed and encouraged.

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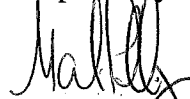


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Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Pellegrini
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 50,233